

CONTRACEPTION, CHOICE AND WOMEN LIVING WITH HIV

Women living with HIV who wish to plan or avoid a pregnancy require information about all methods of contraception and should be supported in making an informed choice about the method that best suits their individual needs. Considerations that are common to all individuals such as desire for non-contraceptive benefits for acne or menstrual symptoms, the need for discretion, religious beliefs, costs and personal preference remain relevant. However, in relation to HIV, specific consideration needs to be given to the effect of the contraceptive method on disease progression and transmission, antiretroviral drug interactions, the presence of other chronic medical conditions and the need for protection from other STIs. This presentation will provide an overview of the current (and future) contraceptive options recommended for women living with HIV in order to support informed decision-making in this population.